

PS-DHS Meeting Notes - February 10

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Date: Fri, 11 Feb 2022 15:02:15 +0000

Hi Colleagues,

Sharing below the Public Safety readout of yesterday's unclassified call between PS Portfolio and DHS. I understand there's a classified follow up this morning, and we're tracking any other potential meetings today at various levels. Will share updates and readouts when we get them.

Note that we are doing a situational update meeting with CBP this afternoon and again on Monday morning.

Thanks,
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DHS:

Samantha Vinograd, Acting Assistant Secretary, Counterterrorism and Threat Prevention Policy
John Cohen, Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Under Secretary and Coordinator for Counterterrorism Office of Intelligence and Analysis

Overview:

- Goal of call to focus on sharing views on threat-related aspects of events and effects on both sides of the border.
- Regarding POEs, seeing early impacts in US on the economy; noted particular concern from pharmaceutical industry about supply chain impacts and inability to ship meds to CAN.

Threat:

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-US noted CBC media reporting that former police and military officers part of protest, and s.38
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-US noted suggestions on social media about convoys forming domestically in US, which may seek to travel north to CAN (i.e. in Buffalo and Michigan); also noted there is a process to track indicators and will send to agencies directly through existing channels.

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-US asked that appropriate officials communicate any change in strategy at POE so that cross border preparation can take place.

CAN Brief

RCMP

- Event being tracked by RCMP as NS event due to rhetoric surrounding removal of government and location around Parliament, which is considered critical infrastructure.
- Ideology is largely anti-government, anti-vaccine, anti-mandate. Seeing some disputes between groups.
- IMVE individuals active on social media, although not crossing threshold to actively inciting violence (noted one incident when two individuals tried to set a building on fire and lock the door – was reported in media).
- Aware of and looking into alleged role of protestors with former ties to police and/or military.

CBSA

- Overall assessment is IMVE physical security threat at border is low at this time.
- Protesters keen to remain off federal property at POEs; potentially shows there is a degree of sophistication and knowledge of how to disrupt and get attention but not enter locations where can be easily removed.

Next Steps:

Classified follow-up discussion planned with expected focus on financing element.

Participants:

US/DHS

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CAN

PCO

Steven Shragge
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CSIS

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RCMP

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FINTRAC

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